

23 December 1964

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Domestic Press Reaction to President's Statement on Panama

1. This memorandum is for your information only.
2. News stories gave extensive coverage to the President's announcement. This was followed up by stories that Panama and other Latin American countries hailed the announcement. There were also speculative stories on the possible use of nuclear explosives in digging a new canal and on the pros and cons of digging in one place or another.
3. Editorial comment was universally good. Editorials in the CHICAGO TRIBUNE, ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN (and other Hearst papers), BALTIMORE SUN, WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS (and other Scripps-Howard papers), and the WASHINGTON POST all approved the President's proposals. The NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE warns of difficulties ahead in implementing the President's proposals. The Scripps-Howard papers and the CHICAGO TRIBUNE warn against the danger of building the new canal in Panama. No newspapers received in this office carried any adverse editorial comment.

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Paul M. Chrétien  
Assistant to the Director  
for Public Affairs

Attachments: clippings

THE PRESIDENT  
LATIN AMERICA

31 December 1964

A draft copy of the President's comments on Panama (re new canal)  
and O/DDI memo w/suggested re-write of one paragraph is filed  
under LATIN AMERICA - 1964.

# MISSING PAGE

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

no att.